

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:04,000

This place is much more dramatic than I pictured.

2

00:00:04,000 --> 00:00:12,000

The locals don't swim in the lake because they believe it is haunted.

3

00:00:15,000 --> 00:00:18,000

Nobody's died there, so nobody's ever seen it.

4

00:00:23,000 --> 00:00:25,000

Here we go, into the darkness.

5

00:00:25,000 --> 00:00:27,000

Wow, look at these formations.

6

00:00:27,000 --> 00:00:31,000

This will be a particularly deep dive for me, so I'm feeling anxious.

7

00:00:31,000 --> 00:00:36,000

I may have something over here. It's a box. I see a box.

8

00:00:44,000 --> 00:00:48,000

In a remote corner of Africa, amidst Namibia's sweeping deserts,

9

00:00:48,000 --> 00:00:54,000

is an unexpected sight, an enigmatic lake that hides a dark past.

10

00:00:54,000 --> 00:00:58,000

Local tribes believe it's cursed, a place of certain death.

11

00:00:58,000 --> 00:01:02,000

European colonists even thought it was bottomless.

12

00:01:02,000 --> 00:01:07,000

Perhaps that's why Lake Ochikoto was the perfect place for retreating German soldiers

13

00:01:07,000 --> 00:01:10,000

to dump their weapons during World War I.

14

00:01:12,000 --> 00:01:14,000

But what if they hid more than just guns?

15

00:01:15,000 --> 00:01:19,000

For nearly a century, a legend has persisted that the German High Command

16

00:01:19,000 --> 00:01:24,000

also ordered the sinking of a safe, filled with 6 million gold marks.

17

00:01:27,000 --> 00:01:31,000

Now, acting on eyewitness information and boundary pushing technology,

18

00:01:31,000 --> 00:01:37,000

a team of explorers may be closer than ever to discovering the truth deep in the abyss.

19

00:01:37,000 --> 00:01:42,000

New clues have also surfaced that could change the search area entirely,

20

00:01:42,000 --> 00:01:47,000

with some now believing that part of the treasure might actually be buried on land.

21

00:01:49,000 --> 00:01:52,000

I'm jetting to Namibia to chase down these new leads.

22

00:01:52,000 --> 00:01:57,000

I'll join an elite team of divers on the most comprehensive and dangerous search

23

00:01:57,000 --> 00:02:01,000

ever conducted to get to the bottom of the bottomless lake.

24

00:02:08,000 --> 00:02:10,000

My name is Josh Gates.

25

00:02:10,000 --> 00:02:15,000

Look at that, with a degree in archaeology and a passion for exploration.

26

00:02:16,000 --> 00:02:19,000

I have a tendency to end up in some very strange situations.

27

00:02:19,000 --> 00:02:22,000

This is horrible. This is officially horrible.

28

00:02:22,000 --> 00:02:25,000

My travels have taken me to the ends of the earth,

29

00:02:25,000 --> 00:02:29,000

as I investigate the greatest legends in history.

30

00:02:29,000 --> 00:02:30,000

We're going to cry, let's go.

31

00:02:30,000 --> 00:02:33,000

This is Expedition Unknown.

32

00:02:39,000 --> 00:02:43,000

After a short 18-hour trip to the southwestern edge of Africa,

33

00:02:43,000 --> 00:02:46,000

I'm in Namibia's capital city of Vindhuk.

34

00:02:46,000 --> 00:02:50,000

This region was mired in conflict for much of the 20th century.

35

00:02:50,000 --> 00:02:53,000

Today, it is a place reborn.

36

00:02:54,000 --> 00:02:55,000

Welcome to Namibia.

37

00:02:55,000 --> 00:02:58,000

This is one of the youngest countries in Africa,

38

00:02:58,000 --> 00:03:01,000

having gained its independence from South Africa in 1990.

39

00:03:01,000 --> 00:03:04,000

And its capital here, Vindhuk, is kind of a puzzler, actually.

40

00:03:04,000 --> 00:03:07,000

For a country that's made up mostly of wide-open deserts,

41

00:03:07,000 --> 00:03:10,000

this place is oddly modern and manicured.

42

00:03:10,000 --> 00:03:12,000

It may not be the most exciting place in the world,

43

00:03:12,000 --> 00:03:17,000

but it probably wins my vote for the cleanest and safest capital on the entire continent.

44

00:03:17,000 --> 00:03:22,000

It is also the starting line for my expedition in search of a legendary lost treasure.

45

00:03:23,000 --> 00:03:28,000

Thirteen different African tribes and the descendants of European colonizers

46

00:03:28,000 --> 00:03:33,000

call Namibia home, which makes the streets of Vindhuk a true melting pot of cultures.

47

00:03:33,000 --> 00:03:36,000

It also makes dining here an adventure,

48

00:03:36,000 --> 00:03:41,000

and I hit up a hotspot where patrons can enjoy some real FaceTime with their food.

49

00:03:48,000 --> 00:03:49,000

There you go.

50

00:03:49,000 --> 00:03:50,000

What have we got here?

51

00:03:50,000 --> 00:03:51,000

That's goat head.

52

00:03:51,000 --> 00:03:53,000

It's a goat head, a full goat head.

53

00:03:53,000 --> 00:03:54,000

A full one.

54

00:03:56,000 --> 00:03:57,000

Thank you very much.

55

00:03:57,000 --> 00:03:58,000

Enjoy it.

56

00:03:58,000 --> 00:03:59,000

I appreciate it.

57

00:04:02,000 --> 00:04:03,000

Here we go.

58

00:04:03,000 --> 00:04:04,000

Okay.

59

00:04:07,000 --> 00:04:09,000

How do you get into this thing?

60

00:04:09,000 --> 00:04:11,000

I don't know where to start.

61

00:04:11,000 --> 00:04:13,000

Okay, some cheeks maybe.

62

00:04:13,000 --> 00:04:14,000

Here we go.

63

00:04:20,000 --> 00:04:21,000

Here's the thing.

64

00:04:21,000 --> 00:04:24,000

In all seriousness, it's great.

65

00:04:24,000 --> 00:04:27,000

It's looking at me, though, which is a problem.

66

00:04:27,000 --> 00:04:30,000

But I like to think of myself as a problem solver.

67

00:04:30,000 --> 00:04:35,000

So they say the eyeball is actually a delicacy.

68

00:04:43,000 --> 00:04:45,000

Okay, here's looking at you, kid.

69

00:04:50,000 --> 00:04:51,000

No way.

70

00:04:51,000 --> 00:04:53,000

This is tough.

71

00:04:53,000 --> 00:04:54,000

I'll hurt you for me.

72

00:04:55,000 --> 00:04:56,000

Come on.

73

00:04:56,000 --> 00:04:57,000

Okay, whew.

74

00:04:57,000 --> 00:05:00,000

This is the longest lunch of my life.

75

00:05:00,000 --> 00:05:03,000

Lunch was a total head trip.

76

00:05:03,000 --> 00:05:05,000

But so is all of Namibia.

77

00:05:05,000 --> 00:05:11,000

Confused travelers will notice that half the buildings look like they teleported in from Bavaria,

78

00:05:11,000 --> 00:05:13,000

including these tents in the center of town.

79

00:05:13,000 --> 00:05:16,000

Welcome to Oktoberfest, Namibia style.

80

00:05:16,000 --> 00:05:17,000

Here we go.

81

00:05:17,000 --> 00:05:19,000

This is how we do in Namibia.

82

00:05:19,000 --> 00:05:20,000

Cheers.

83

00:05:20,000 --> 00:05:22,000

Gryffindor.

84

00:05:22,000 --> 00:05:27,000

We may be 6,000 miles from Munich, but Germans feel right at home here.

85

00:05:27,000 --> 00:05:31,000

So Africa may seem like a strange place to celebrate Oktoberfest,

86

00:05:31,000 --> 00:05:34,000

but in fact, German culture runs very deep here.

87

00:05:34,000 --> 00:05:37,000

The Germans actually colonized this area in the late 1800s

88

00:05:37,000 --> 00:05:40,000

and turned it into German Southwestern.

89

00:05:40,000 --> 00:05:43,000

So it's a great place to celebrate Oktoberfest.

90

00:05:43,000 --> 00:05:46,000

And it's a great place to celebrate Oktoberfest.

91

00:05:46,000 --> 00:05:49,000

So we colonized this area in the late 1800s

92

00:05:49,000 --> 00:05:51,000

and turned it into German Southwest Africa.

93

00:05:51,000 --> 00:05:54,000

And the end of their reign is the beginning of our story.

94

00:05:56,000 --> 00:06:01,000

World War I is raging, not just in Europe, but also in the African colonies.

95

00:06:01,000 --> 00:06:05,000

And in 1915, the British-backed South African forces

96

00:06:05,000 --> 00:06:08,000

invade their neighbor, German Southwest Africa.

97

00:06:08,000 --> 00:06:13,000

Outnumbered 10 to 1, the German troops retreat north from the capital of Windhoek

98

00:06:13,000 --> 00:06:17,000

to formally surrender in Karab on July 9, 1915.

99

00:06:17,000 --> 00:06:19,000

But right before they do,

100

00:06:19,000 --> 00:06:23,000

Commander Victor Franke sends a small group of soldiers north to Lake Ocicoto

101

00:06:23,000 --> 00:06:28,000

with orders to sink their cannons and arms before they can be seized by the enemy.

102

00:06:29,000 --> 00:06:31,000

And that's not all.

103

00:06:31,000 --> 00:06:36,000

Legend says the Germans also dump a safe filled with 6 million gold marks.

104

00:06:37,000 --> 00:06:42,000

Six million marks would sure buy a lot of beer, and there's no shortage of that here.

105

00:06:42,000 --> 00:06:45,000

Oh, my savior. I'll take two.

106

00:06:52,000 --> 00:06:55,000

And that's very clearly a wrap on Oktoberfest.

107

00:06:57,000 --> 00:07:00,000

The next morning, I set off to meet with Theo Schumann.

108

00:07:00,000 --> 00:07:02,000

Having spent his entire life in Namibia,

109

00:07:02,000 --> 00:07:06,000

he's one of the foremost experts on Lake Ocicoto.

110

00:07:06,000 --> 00:07:07,000

Theo.

111

00:07:07,000 --> 00:07:08,000

Good morning, Josh.

112

00:07:08,000 --> 00:07:09,000

Great to meet you.

113

00:07:09,000 --> 00:07:10,000

Great to meet you too.

114

00:07:10,000 --> 00:07:11,000

Welcome to Namibia.

115

00:07:11,000 --> 00:07:12,000

Thank you so much.

116

00:07:12,000 --> 00:07:15,000

My understanding is that when it comes to the story of this lake,

117

00:07:15,000 --> 00:07:17,000

nobody knows more about this than you do.

118

00:07:17,000 --> 00:07:18,000

Is that safe to say?

119

00:07:18,000 --> 00:07:22,000

I believe so, yes, because I was the second person to dive in the lake.

120

00:07:23,000 --> 00:07:29,000

A lifelong explorer, Theo and two friends made an incredible underwater discovery in 1984.

121

00:07:29,000 --> 00:07:34,000

Some of the cannons the Germans had dumped into Lake Oicoto decades earlier.

122

00:07:34,000 --> 00:07:38,000

But the lake slopes to even deeper depths where they haven't explored.

123

00:07:40,000 --> 00:07:43,000

And so why now? Why is there a new search underway?

124

00:07:43,000 --> 00:07:48,000

There is now new technology available for us to go deeper, to see more,

125

00:07:48,000 --> 00:07:51,000

and to actually do a very comprehensive survey of the lake.

126

00:07:51,000 --> 00:07:55,000

If there is a treasure in that lake, we stand the best chance ever of finding it.

127

00:07:55,000 --> 00:07:57,000

I like the sound of that. This is happening now.

128

00:07:57,000 --> 00:08:00,000

We have a team already assembled up at Lake Ocicoto.

129

00:08:00,000 --> 00:08:03,000

And Josh, I would love to invite you up to join us.

130

00:08:03,000 --> 00:08:05,000

Are you kidding me? I would be thrilled.

131

00:08:05,000 --> 00:08:06,000

That would be wonderful.

132

00:08:06,000 --> 00:08:07,000

However, one condition.

133

00:08:07,000 --> 00:08:08,000

Okay.

134

00:08:08,000 --> 00:08:09,000

You drive.

135

00:08:09,000 --> 00:08:10,000

I can handle that.

136

00:08:10,000 --> 00:08:11,000

You can handle that.

137

00:08:11,000 --> 00:08:12,000

Yeah, come on. Let's do it. Come on.

138

00:08:15,000 --> 00:08:19,000

We hit the road, traveling north toward Lake Ocicoto.

139

00:08:19,000 --> 00:08:21,000

How far from here to Lake Ocicoto?

140

00:08:21,000 --> 00:08:24,000

Approximately 450 kilometers.

141

00:08:24,000 --> 00:08:27,000

I'm starting to see why you wanted me to drive here.

142

00:08:31,000 --> 00:08:34,000

All told, the drive will take more than five hours.

143

00:08:34,000 --> 00:08:37,000

And there aren't many places to stop along the way.

144

00:08:38,000 --> 00:08:43,000

Boy, when you get outside of the city, it just drops away to nothing real quick.

145

00:08:43,000 --> 00:08:44,000

Absolutely.

146

00:08:46,000 --> 00:08:49,000

This is Namibia. Empty.

147

00:08:49,000 --> 00:08:53,000

It is one of the least densely populated nations on Earth.

148

00:08:53,000 --> 00:08:57,000

And a place where nature takes on an almost mystical presence.

149

00:08:57,000 --> 00:09:03,000

I've heard stories about this lake that make it sound almost supernatural or otherworldly.

150

00:09:03,000 --> 00:09:06,000

People have described it as like a bottomless pit.

151

00:09:06,000 --> 00:09:12,000

The locals don't swim in the lake because they believe it is haunted.

152

00:09:12,000 --> 00:09:17,000

And that there are currents and whirlpools and all kinds of funny things, isn't there?

153

00:09:17,000 --> 00:09:18,000

Right.

154

00:09:18,000 --> 00:09:22,000

Now those legends actually originate back to Cook.

155

00:09:22,000 --> 00:09:27,000

He went swimming in the lake and he disappeared completely drowned

156

00:09:27,000 --> 00:09:29,000

and his body was never found.

157

00:09:29,000 --> 00:09:30,000

Never found?

158

00:09:30,000 --> 00:09:31,000

Never found.

159

00:09:31,000 --> 00:09:35,000

In 1927, a local postmaster named Johannes Cook

160

00:09:35,000 --> 00:09:38,000

dared to swim in the mysterious Lake Ocicoto,

161

00:09:38,000 --> 00:09:40,000

but he never resurfaced.

162

00:09:40,000 --> 00:09:43,000

And to this day, his body has not been recovered.

163

00:09:43,000 --> 00:09:45,000

That started the legends about it.

164

00:09:45,000 --> 00:09:48,000

Right. So this is considered almost like a spiritual place then?

165

00:09:48,000 --> 00:09:49,000

Absolutely.

166

00:09:51,000 --> 00:09:53,000

We cross into the heart of Namibia,

167

00:09:53,000 --> 00:09:57,000

where sometimes the shortest road between two points takes you through the backcountry.

168

00:09:57,000 --> 00:09:59,000

And I do mean backcountry.

169

00:10:01,000 --> 00:10:02,000

Oh, there's an elephant.

170

00:10:02,000 --> 00:10:04,000

Careful, careful.

171

00:10:04,000 --> 00:10:06,000

I'm just gonna give him all the room he needs.

172

00:10:09,000 --> 00:10:12,000

There's a reason that Max Fury Road was shot here.

173

00:10:12,000 --> 00:10:15,000

And if there's a live action version of the Lion King in the works,

174

00:10:15,000 --> 00:10:17,000

it would do nicely for that as well.

175

00:10:17,000 --> 00:10:18,000

So we've got warthogs.

176

00:10:18,000 --> 00:10:20,000

Look at that, warthogs.

177

00:10:20,000 --> 00:10:23,000

Warthogs are weird for me because Disney made them so cute,

178

00:10:23,000 --> 00:10:26,000

but then you see them in person and they're not actually all that cute.

179

00:10:26,000 --> 00:10:28,000

Sorry, clumba.

180

00:10:30,000 --> 00:10:34,000

Namibia boasts an array of wildlife unlike anywhere else,

181

00:10:34,000 --> 00:10:38,000

including the world's largest population of endangered cheetahs.

182

00:10:39,000 --> 00:10:42,000

Incredible how much of this country is wilderness.

183

00:10:44,000 --> 00:10:47,000

This desert is teeming with hungry wild animals,

184

00:10:47,000 --> 00:10:50,000

but becoming lunch might be the least of our worries.

185

00:10:50,000 --> 00:10:52,000

Stop, stop, stop, stop.

186

00:10:54,000 --> 00:10:55,000

Rhino.

187

00:10:55,000 --> 00:10:57,000

That's a rhino.

188

00:10:57,000 --> 00:10:58,000

A rhino.

189

00:11:05,000 --> 00:11:08,000

I'm crossing the vast plains of Namibia.

190

00:11:08,000 --> 00:11:11,000

By my side is deep diving expert Theo Schumann,

191

00:11:11,000 --> 00:11:13,000

who's directing me to a mysterious lake

192

00:11:13,000 --> 00:11:17,000

where legend says a German treasure was sunk in World War I.

193

00:11:17,000 --> 00:11:21,000

This part of the country is quite literally wild,

194

00:11:21,000 --> 00:11:23,000

and we're doing our best to share the road,

195

00:11:23,000 --> 00:11:24,000

when suddenly...

196

00:11:24,000 --> 00:11:26,000

Josh, stop, stop, stop, stop.

197

00:11:28,000 --> 00:11:29,000

Rhino.

198

00:11:29,000 --> 00:11:31,000

That's a rhino.

199

00:11:32,000 --> 00:11:36,000

I'm fairly certain that impact would not have gone in our favor.

200

00:11:36,000 --> 00:11:38,000

Okay, I'm gonna turn those around here.

201

00:11:38,000 --> 00:11:40,000

Yes, let's try to go around him.

202

00:11:41,000 --> 00:11:43,000

Please don't charge me, please don't charge me.

203

00:11:43,000 --> 00:11:46,000

Quietly go past.

204

00:11:46,000 --> 00:11:47,000

We're alive.

205

00:11:47,000 --> 00:11:48,000

There we are.

206

00:11:48,000 --> 00:11:49,000

We're alive.

207

00:11:50,000 --> 00:11:52,000

We drive deeper into the desert,

208

00:11:52,000 --> 00:11:55,000

and after a day of gazing at endless sand,

209

00:11:55,000 --> 00:11:58,000

an astounding sight appears before us.

210

00:11:58,000 --> 00:12:02,000

The magnificent and mysterious Lake Ochikoto.

211

00:12:11,000 --> 00:12:14,000

Ochikoto literally means deep hole.

212

00:12:14,000 --> 00:12:16,000

Formed by a collapsed cave,

213

00:12:16,000 --> 00:12:19,000

it is one of only two lakes in the entire country,

214

00:12:19,000 --> 00:12:22,000

and it's easy to see why people are afraid of it.

215

00:12:22,000 --> 00:12:24,000

The crater is ringed by sheer cliffs,

216

00:12:24,000 --> 00:12:26,000

and the rusted tendrils of old pipes,

217

00:12:26,000 --> 00:12:28,000

and a forgotten pumping station,

218

00:12:28,000 --> 00:12:32,000

dating back to when Germans sucked fresh water out of the abyss.

219

00:12:32,000 --> 00:12:35,000

This is the location where the Germans are believed

220

00:12:35,000 --> 00:12:36,000

to have dumped their weapons,

221

00:12:36,000 --> 00:12:41,000

and a box containing a fortune and gold at the end of World War I.

222

00:12:41,000 --> 00:12:44,000

To understand how we're going to tackle investigating the lake,

223

00:12:44,000 --> 00:12:46,000

Theo introduces me to his team.

224

00:12:46,000 --> 00:12:48,000

Hey, nice to meet you guys.

225

00:12:48,000 --> 00:12:49,000

Nice to meet you.

226

00:12:49,000 --> 00:12:50,000

Nice to meet you.

227

00:12:50,000 --> 00:12:51,000

John.

228

00:12:51,000 --> 00:12:52,000

John, pleasure.

229

00:12:52,000 --> 00:12:53,000

Richard.

230

00:12:53,000 --> 00:12:54,000

Evan.

231

00:12:54,000 --> 00:12:55,000

Evan.

232

00:12:55,000 --> 00:12:56,000

Great to meet you guys.

233

00:12:56,000 --> 00:12:59,000

This place is much more dramatic than I pictured.

234

00:12:59,000 --> 00:13:00,000

It's really something.

235

00:13:00,000 --> 00:13:01,000

It is.

236

00:13:01,000 --> 00:13:04,000

Just for a sense of scope and scale, how wide is this thing?

237

00:13:04,000 --> 00:13:07,000

It's approximately 300 feet in diameter.

238

00:13:07,000 --> 00:13:09,000

And what about the depth?

239

00:13:09,000 --> 00:13:10,000

Well, we've had divers,

240

00:13:10,000 --> 00:13:12,000

and you've had people talk about depths,

241

00:13:12,000 --> 00:13:13,000

but we don't really know.

242

00:13:13,000 --> 00:13:16,000

So we don't know for sure how deep it goes.

243

00:13:16,000 --> 00:13:17,000

Wow.

244

00:13:17,000 --> 00:13:18,000

So tell me about this new search.

245

00:13:18,000 --> 00:13:19,000

What are you guys doing now?

246

00:13:19,000 --> 00:13:22,000

We've bought in some really sophisticated sonar equipment,

247

00:13:22,000 --> 00:13:23,000

and that's where Richard comes in.

248

00:13:23,000 --> 00:13:24,000

You're the sonar man.

249

00:13:24,000 --> 00:13:25,000

I'm the sonar man.

250

00:13:25,000 --> 00:13:28,000

So how could it still have secrets to offer up?

251

00:13:28,000 --> 00:13:31,000

How could we still not know what's down there?

252

00:13:31,000 --> 00:13:32,000

Because of the depths,

253

00:13:32,000 --> 00:13:34,000

you are limited to bottom time.

254

00:13:34,000 --> 00:13:36,000

So literally, you can go down, do something,

255

00:13:36,000 --> 00:13:38,000

and you've got to start going up again.

256

00:13:38,000 --> 00:13:39,000

Right.

257

00:13:39,000 --> 00:13:40,000

Because it's just too deep.

258

00:13:40,000 --> 00:13:41,000

OK, so how do we begin?

259

00:13:41,000 --> 00:13:43,000

Well, we get the boat in the water.

260

00:13:43,000 --> 00:13:45,000

We get the sonar established on it.

261

00:13:45,000 --> 00:13:47,000

And we get out there and start trawling up and down.

262

00:13:47,000 --> 00:13:48,000

I love it.

263

00:13:48,000 --> 00:13:49,000

Let's do it.

264

00:13:49,000 --> 00:13:50,000

Let's go.

265

00:13:50,000 --> 00:13:54,000

Step one of our investigation is letting a sonar system scan

266

00:13:54,000 --> 00:13:56,000

the darkest recesses of the lake.

267

00:13:56,000 --> 00:13:59,000

This should provide a never-before-seen 3D image

268

00:13:59,000 --> 00:14:01,000

of what lies beneath the surface,

269

00:14:01,000 --> 00:14:04,000

allowing us to pinpoint anomalies on the lake's floor.

270

00:14:04,000 --> 00:14:08,000

Hopefully one of them will be a box of German gold.

271

00:14:08,000 --> 00:14:15,000

OK, sonar's up, and we are ready recording now.

272

00:14:15,000 --> 00:14:17,000

The system may look homespun,

273

00:14:17,000 --> 00:14:20,000

but it's absolutely bleeding-edge tech.

274

00:14:20,000 --> 00:14:22,000

Richard is using a multi-beam sonar system,

275

00:14:22,000 --> 00:14:25,000

together with dual GPS receivers

276

00:14:25,000 --> 00:14:27,000

and a motion reference unit

277

00:14:27,000 --> 00:14:29,000

to pinpoint targets on the lake's floor

278

00:14:29,000 --> 00:14:31,000

to centimeter accuracy.

279

00:14:31,000 --> 00:14:34,000

This system has revolutionized exploration survey,

280

00:14:34,000 --> 00:14:36,000

and almost immediately,

281

00:14:36,000 --> 00:14:38,000

the computer starts spitting back results.

282

00:14:38,000 --> 00:14:41,000

So what you're looking at here is the bottom

283

00:14:41,000 --> 00:14:43,000

where it's the very strong signal.

284

00:14:43,000 --> 00:14:44,000

Right.

285

00:14:44,000 --> 00:14:45,000

It's a very hard bottom, really.

286

00:14:45,000 --> 00:14:47,000

And things like this, what are these...

287

00:14:47,000 --> 00:14:48,000

What is this on the bottom here?

288

00:14:48,000 --> 00:14:51,000

You know, I don't know, but that's the sort of thing

289

00:14:51,000 --> 00:14:53,000

we'd want to send the divers down to

290

00:14:53,000 --> 00:14:55,000

if it's still within their depth range.

291

00:14:55,000 --> 00:14:56,000

Wow.

292

00:14:56,000 --> 00:14:58,000

And so for now, though, we just keep mowing the lawn

293

00:14:58,000 --> 00:14:59,000

and collecting data.

294

00:14:59,000 --> 00:15:00,000

That's it.

295

00:15:00,000 --> 00:15:01,000

All right.

296

00:15:01,000 --> 00:15:04,000

We continue our methodical pass across the lake

297

00:15:04,000 --> 00:15:07,000

to let the sonar scan for anomalies on the bottom.

298

00:15:07,000 --> 00:15:08,000

Sometimes you're looking at things

299

00:15:08,000 --> 00:15:10,000

that probably nobody's ever looked at.

300

00:15:10,000 --> 00:15:12,000

I bet this place is in this lake.

301

00:15:12,000 --> 00:15:13,000

Nobody's dived there.

302

00:15:13,000 --> 00:15:14,000

So nobody's ever seen it.

303

00:15:14,000 --> 00:15:15,000

Man on the moon type stuff.

304

00:15:15,000 --> 00:15:16,000

It is.

305

00:15:16,000 --> 00:15:17,000

Yeah.

306

00:15:18,000 --> 00:15:19,000

We complete our scan,

307

00:15:19,000 --> 00:15:21,000

and I navigate us back to the shore

308

00:15:21,000 --> 00:15:23,000

where we reconvene with the team.

309

00:15:25,000 --> 00:15:28,000

We eagerly await for the computer to process the data

310

00:15:28,000 --> 00:15:31,000

in hopes that it will uncover possible locations

311

00:15:31,000 --> 00:15:32,000

for the lost treasure.

312

00:15:33,000 --> 00:15:34,000

How did the number crunching go?

313

00:15:34,000 --> 00:15:36,000

The number crunching has gone really, really well

314

00:15:36,000 --> 00:15:38,000

and very surprising.

315

00:15:38,000 --> 00:15:39,000

That's the hole in the middle.

316

00:15:39,000 --> 00:15:40,000

Right.

317

00:15:40,000 --> 00:15:41,000

And around the outside of that,

318

00:15:41,000 --> 00:15:44,000

you can see the actual shape of this lake.

319

00:15:44,000 --> 00:15:45,000

Is that underwater?

320

00:15:45,000 --> 00:15:46,000

I'm at all underwater.

321

00:15:46,000 --> 00:15:48,000

That's what you do not see

322

00:15:48,000 --> 00:15:50,000

when you stand there looking out across that lake.

323

00:15:50,000 --> 00:15:51,000

Oh, my God.

324

00:15:51,000 --> 00:15:52,000

That's huge.

325

00:15:52,000 --> 00:15:53,000

So that's what it looks like in two dimensions.

326

00:15:53,000 --> 00:15:56,000

And this is what it looks like in three dimensions.

327

00:15:56,000 --> 00:15:57,000

That's crazy.

328

00:15:57,000 --> 00:15:58,000

That's phenomenal.

329

00:15:58,000 --> 00:15:59,000

That is awesome.

330

00:15:59,000 --> 00:16:00,000

That is beautiful.

331

00:16:00,000 --> 00:16:01,000

I thought it is.

332

00:16:01,000 --> 00:16:03,000

That's the first time we've really seen

333

00:16:03,000 --> 00:16:05,000

what this lake looks like.

334

00:16:06,000 --> 00:16:09,000

The scan reveals, for the first time ever,

335

00:16:09,000 --> 00:16:12,000

a complete picture of the mysterious O'Chicoto.

336

00:16:12,000 --> 00:16:16,000

The lake actually widens like a cone underneath the cliffs

337

00:16:16,000 --> 00:16:20,000

and is much larger and deeper than anyone expected.

338

00:16:20,000 --> 00:16:22,000

This is really extraordinary.

339

00:16:22,000 --> 00:16:24,000

In terms of depth, what are we looking at?

340

00:16:24,000 --> 00:16:25,000

Well, at the very, very bottom,

341

00:16:25,000 --> 00:16:27,000

you're down about 300 feet.

342

00:16:27,000 --> 00:16:28,000

That's incredible.

343

00:16:28,000 --> 00:16:29,000

Can you go inside of it?

344

00:16:29,000 --> 00:16:30,000

Let's go.

345

00:16:30,000 --> 00:16:32,000

Let's go where the divers would go

346

00:16:32,000 --> 00:16:34,000

without all that paraphernalia.

347

00:16:34,000 --> 00:16:35,000

That's insane.

348

00:16:35,000 --> 00:16:37,000

And now we're on the seafloor.

349

00:16:37,000 --> 00:16:38,000

Are these some of the hits we saw in the sonar?

350

00:16:38,000 --> 00:16:39,000

Exactly.

351

00:16:39,000 --> 00:16:40,000

So, I mean, you've got a map,

352

00:16:40,000 --> 00:16:42,000

but what we're really trying to do here

353

00:16:42,000 --> 00:16:45,000

is find these anomalies, find the targets

354

00:16:45,000 --> 00:16:47,000

that the divers can go down to efficiently.

355

00:16:47,000 --> 00:16:48,000

Right.

356

00:16:48,000 --> 00:16:51,000

Get them right to a spot where there's something unusual.

357

00:16:51,000 --> 00:16:54,000

So there's this whole new perimeter inside the lake

358

00:16:54,000 --> 00:16:55,000

and the bottom of the lake

359

00:16:55,000 --> 00:16:58,000

that maybe hasn't been completely searched before,

360

00:16:58,000 --> 00:17:00,000

where things could have rolled down into.

361

00:17:00,000 --> 00:17:01,000

Absolutely.

362

00:17:01,000 --> 00:17:03,000

Chris, in terms of sorting through these targets,

363

00:17:03,000 --> 00:17:04,000

how do you attack this?

364

00:17:04,000 --> 00:17:06,000

These sites, yeah, there's a couple of hits

365

00:17:06,000 --> 00:17:08,000

which we could definitely reach

366

00:17:08,000 --> 00:17:11,000

with conventional normal, you know, scuba gear.

367

00:17:11,000 --> 00:17:13,000

Do you think I might be able to get down to those?

368

00:17:13,000 --> 00:17:14,000

I think you could.

369

00:17:14,000 --> 00:17:15,000

And what about these deeper targets?

370

00:17:15,000 --> 00:17:16,000

Could you guys reach those targets?

371

00:17:16,000 --> 00:17:18,000

We could reach those targets, yes.

372

00:17:18,000 --> 00:17:19,000

Okay.

373

00:17:19,000 --> 00:17:20,000

So, should we go down there

374

00:17:20,000 --> 00:17:21,000

and see what these targets actually are?

375

00:17:21,000 --> 00:17:22,000

Let's go.

376

00:17:22,000 --> 00:17:23,000

Let's go.

377

00:17:23,000 --> 00:17:24,000

Let's go diving.

378

00:17:25,000 --> 00:17:27,000

First, we'll investigate the targets

379

00:17:27,000 --> 00:17:29,000

that lie just over 100 feet down.

380

00:17:29,000 --> 00:17:32,000

Later, Chris, Evan, and Johan,

381

00:17:32,000 --> 00:17:34,000

who are certified technical divers,

382

00:17:34,000 --> 00:17:36,000

will use specialized underwater gear

383

00:17:36,000 --> 00:17:38,000

to investigate the deeper hits.

384

00:17:38,000 --> 00:17:41,000

Okay, so this is where things get real.

385

00:17:41,000 --> 00:17:43,000

The sonar's given us some really exciting hits,

386

00:17:43,000 --> 00:17:44,000

but as Richard says,

387

00:17:44,000 --> 00:17:46,000

it's all about getting eyes down there.

388

00:17:46,000 --> 00:17:48,000

So, this lake is very dangerous.

389

00:17:48,000 --> 00:17:49,000

It's very deep.

390

00:17:49,000 --> 00:17:51,000

This will be a particularly deep dive for me,

391

00:17:51,000 --> 00:17:52,000

so I'm feeling anxious,

392

00:17:52,000 --> 00:17:54,000

but really excited to get down there

393

00:17:54,000 --> 00:17:56,000

and see what's actually on the bottom.

394

00:18:00,000 --> 00:18:02,000

Okay, Josh, we've got that comm system up here,

395

00:18:02,000 --> 00:18:03,000

so we'll be able to talk with you.

396

00:18:03,000 --> 00:18:05,000

Sounds good. All right, stay in touch.

397

00:18:05,000 --> 00:18:06,000

Great. Have a good dive.

398

00:18:06,000 --> 00:18:07,000

Thanks very much.

399

00:18:09,000 --> 00:18:11,000

To guide us in the murky water,

400

00:18:11,000 --> 00:18:13,000

we drop what's known as a shot line

401

00:18:13,000 --> 00:18:16,000

down to the area of the first sonar targets.

402

00:18:23,000 --> 00:18:26,000

Okay, we're headed down the line now.

403

00:18:26,000 --> 00:18:28,000

Copy that, heading down the line.

404

00:18:28,000 --> 00:18:31,000

The press temperature is dropping here.

405

00:18:31,000 --> 00:18:33,000

This is the thermal climbing.

406

00:18:33,000 --> 00:18:35,000

It's still going to get trillium.

407

00:18:35,000 --> 00:18:37,000

As we go deeper.

408

00:18:37,000 --> 00:18:40,000

Okay, we're touching 30 meters.

409

00:18:42,000 --> 00:18:44,000

Copy that, 30 meters.

410

00:18:54,000 --> 00:18:57,000

Okay, we are touching down on the bottom here.

411

00:18:57,000 --> 00:19:00,000

Excellent. You should be down about 34 meters

412

00:19:00,000 --> 00:19:04,000

and descending along the slope to the sonar target.

413

00:19:07,000 --> 00:19:08,000

Copy that.

414

00:19:10,000 --> 00:19:12,000

Be careful if you disturb that sand

415

00:19:12,000 --> 00:19:14,000

and can get really murky very quickly.

416

00:19:14,000 --> 00:19:16,000

Copy that, trying to stay on the bottom.

417

00:19:20,000 --> 00:19:22,000

We make it down to the area where Richard's sonar

418

00:19:22,000 --> 00:19:24,000

revealed several of the areas

419

00:19:24,000 --> 00:19:26,000

and as the sand settles,

420

00:19:26,000 --> 00:19:29,000

my flashlight catches something amazing.

421

00:19:33,000 --> 00:19:35,000

We got a cannon here.

422

00:19:37,000 --> 00:19:41,000

This is one of the cannons first spotted by Theo in 1984.

423

00:19:43,000 --> 00:19:47,000

I'm blown away by this magnificent piece of living history.

424

00:19:49,000 --> 00:19:50,000

This is the first one.

425

00:19:50,000 --> 00:19:51,000

A success.

426

00:19:51,000 --> 00:19:53,000

This is the first one.

427

00:19:53,000 --> 00:19:56,000

A six, seven meters further away, we have a second one.

428

00:19:57,000 --> 00:20:00,000

The colonial German era cannons are proof positive

429

00:20:00,000 --> 00:20:04,000

that soldiers dumped their arms right here in Lake Ochikoto.

430

00:20:04,000 --> 00:20:07,000

That part of the legend is undeniably true.

431

00:20:09,000 --> 00:20:11,000

Now we just need to find evidence

432

00:20:11,000 --> 00:20:13,000

that there's also gold in these waters.

433

00:20:15,000 --> 00:20:18,000

Let's keep moving, see if we can get to that other target.

434

00:20:19,000 --> 00:20:22,000

We descend the slope passing 140 feet.

435

00:20:22,000 --> 00:20:25,000

We're now at the very limits of conventional scuba depths

436

00:20:25,000 --> 00:20:28,000

and we have only minutes to find the next sonar hit.

437

00:20:34,000 --> 00:20:37,000

Chris, Theo, I may have something over here.

438

00:20:39,000 --> 00:20:41,000

It's a box, I see a box.

439

00:20:49,000 --> 00:20:53,000

I'm 140 feet below the surface of Namibia's Lake Ochikoto,

440

00:20:53,000 --> 00:20:55,000

diving for a fabled lost treasure

441

00:20:55,000 --> 00:20:58,000

when I spot something extraordinary.

442

00:20:59,000 --> 00:21:01,000

It's a box, I see a box.

443

00:21:04,000 --> 00:21:06,000

Did you say a box?

444

00:21:06,000 --> 00:21:08,000

Get up and not sure what's inside.

445

00:21:08,000 --> 00:21:10,000

Going in for a closer look.

446

00:21:10,000 --> 00:21:13,000

Looks like it might be an ammo box.

447

00:21:13,000 --> 00:21:16,000

It's definitely an ammo box.

448

00:21:16,000 --> 00:21:19,000

George, be very careful in case there's live ammo in there.

449

00:21:32,000 --> 00:21:35,000

Looks like nothing but silt, just sand.

450

00:21:36,000 --> 00:21:38,000

This is definitely German, yes?

451

00:21:38,000 --> 00:21:40,000

It's as German as you can get.

452

00:21:42,000 --> 00:21:44,000

Finally see a target.

453

00:21:44,000 --> 00:21:47,000

Finally see a target is confirmed from the sonar.

454

00:21:47,000 --> 00:21:50,000

Even if it wasn't the golden box.

455

00:21:50,000 --> 00:21:52,000

Copy that.

456

00:21:52,000 --> 00:21:54,000

The cannons and ammo box are proof

457

00:21:54,000 --> 00:21:57,000

that part of this legend is unequivocally true.

458

00:21:57,000 --> 00:21:59,000

The remainder of the sonar hits

459

00:21:59,000 --> 00:22:01,000

are in even deeper parts of the lake,

460

00:22:01,000 --> 00:22:04,000

but our bodies are too saturated with nitrogen

461

00:22:04,000 --> 00:22:06,000

to remain down here.

462

00:22:08,000 --> 00:22:10,000

Gentlemen, pay attention to you time.

463

00:22:10,000 --> 00:22:12,000

Bottom time is up.

464

00:22:12,000 --> 00:22:14,000

Copy that, and even a surface.

465

00:22:14,000 --> 00:22:17,000

Copy to that, you start your decomp.

466

00:22:17,000 --> 00:22:19,000

On our way up the lines,

467

00:22:19,000 --> 00:22:22,000

we perform a critical safety stop to decompress.

468

00:22:22,000 --> 00:22:24,000

Ascending too fast from these depths

469

00:22:24,000 --> 00:22:26,000

can lead to bubbles in the bloodstream

470

00:22:26,000 --> 00:22:30,000

and a potentially fatal condition known as the bends.

471

00:22:31,000 --> 00:22:34,000

But by carefully monitoring our dive computers,

472

00:22:34,000 --> 00:22:37,000

we finally make it back to the safety of the surface.

473

00:22:42,000 --> 00:22:44,000

That was incredible.

474

00:22:44,000 --> 00:22:46,000

I thought you were rich for a moment.

475

00:22:46,000 --> 00:22:48,000

I did too.

476

00:22:48,000 --> 00:22:50,000

That box just sitting there, it's beautiful.

477

00:22:50,000 --> 00:22:53,000

Now you've seen something out of the colonial era.

478

00:22:53,000 --> 00:22:55,000

I mean just sitting there frozen in time.

479

00:22:55,000 --> 00:22:57,000

OK, so where do we go from here now?

480

00:22:57,000 --> 00:22:59,000

Well, we're not fresh unfortunately,

481

00:22:59,000 --> 00:23:02,000

so our body has to have a bit of a surface interval.

482

00:23:02,000 --> 00:23:04,000

So we're going to climb out, regroup.

483

00:23:04,000 --> 00:23:06,000

Sounds great.

484

00:23:06,000 --> 00:23:08,000

We have more targets to search,

485

00:23:08,000 --> 00:23:10,000

though we can't dive again until our bodies

486

00:23:10,000 --> 00:23:13,000

have released the excess nitrogen in our systems.

487

00:23:13,000 --> 00:23:16,000

But Theo isn't about to take a nap on the shore.

488

00:23:18,000 --> 00:23:21,000

And it turns out there's a new twist to this story.

489

00:23:25,000 --> 00:23:27,000

OK, what are we doing?

490

00:23:27,000 --> 00:23:30,000

There are of course stories that this treasure

491

00:23:30,000 --> 00:23:33,000

may have been stored away or stashed away on land.

492

00:23:34,000 --> 00:23:36,000

Wow, it's incredible.

493

00:23:36,000 --> 00:23:38,000

And we got a call from this farmer

494

00:23:38,000 --> 00:23:41,000

who's found some interesting artifacts on his farm.

495

00:23:41,000 --> 00:23:43,000

And in fact, that was one of the areas

496

00:23:43,000 --> 00:23:45,000

where the German troops went through.

497

00:23:45,000 --> 00:23:47,000

So it's well worth it.

498

00:23:47,000 --> 00:23:49,000

Right through his farm.

499

00:23:49,000 --> 00:23:51,000

And has this farmer's land been searched before?

500

00:23:51,000 --> 00:23:53,000

No, it hasn't been searched at all.

501

00:23:53,000 --> 00:23:57,000

We know that in 1915 some of the retreating German troops

502

00:23:57,000 --> 00:24:00,000

dumped their weapons and ammunition in Lake Ocho-Cogo.

503

00:24:03,000 --> 00:24:07,000

But the majority of the soldiers never make it that far north

504

00:24:07,000 --> 00:24:09,000

and surrender in a town called Karab

505

00:24:09,000 --> 00:24:12,000

near the farm where Theo is leading us.

506

00:24:16,000 --> 00:24:19,000

Waiting for us is farmer André Schumann and his son Kyle.

507

00:24:21,000 --> 00:24:23,000

How are you? I'm Josh.

508

00:24:23,000 --> 00:24:24,000

I'm André.

509

00:24:24,000 --> 00:24:25,000

Pleasure, André.

510

00:24:25,000 --> 00:24:26,000

How are you?

511

00:24:26,000 --> 00:24:29,000

This farm has a connection to the German soldiers

512

00:24:29,000 --> 00:24:30,000

that were here, is that right?

513

00:24:30,000 --> 00:24:34,000

Yeah, yeah, one of the soldiers owned this farm.

514

00:24:34,000 --> 00:24:35,000

Really?

515

00:24:35,000 --> 00:24:37,000

The German surrender took place where?

516

00:24:37,000 --> 00:24:39,000

Very close to this farm.

517

00:24:39,000 --> 00:24:41,000

And so you guys said that you found something out here?

518

00:24:41,000 --> 00:24:43,000

Yes, it's in the back. I'll just fetch it quickly.

519

00:24:46,000 --> 00:24:48,000

It's a double barrel shotgun.

520

00:24:48,000 --> 00:24:49,000

Look at that.

521

00:24:49,000 --> 00:24:51,000

That is awesome.

522

00:24:51,000 --> 00:24:52,000

Wow.

523

00:24:52,000 --> 00:24:53,000

What do you think?

524

00:24:53,000 --> 00:24:56,000

Well, very definitely from the German colonial times.

525

00:24:56,000 --> 00:24:57,000

Yeah.

526

00:24:57,000 --> 00:24:59,000

Also these pieces of metal.

527

00:24:59,000 --> 00:25:02,000

Metal shards, you could see it's been shattered.

528

00:25:02,000 --> 00:25:05,000

Iron, it looks blown apart, whatever it was.

529

00:25:05,000 --> 00:25:07,000

And where did you find this stuff?

530

00:25:07,000 --> 00:25:10,000

About four or five kilometers just down the road here in the valley.

531

00:25:10,000 --> 00:25:12,000

And we also found a cave near by.

532

00:25:12,000 --> 00:25:13,000

There's a cave down there?

533

00:25:13,000 --> 00:25:14,000

Yeah.

534

00:25:14,000 --> 00:25:15,000

Have you been through the cave?

535

00:25:15,000 --> 00:25:16,000

Have you searched in there yet?

536

00:25:16,000 --> 00:25:17,000

Not yet.

537

00:25:17,000 --> 00:25:20,000

We haven't been with any metal detectors or anything, you know.

538

00:25:20,000 --> 00:25:23,000

Is it possible for you to take us to where you found this stuff,

539

00:25:23,000 --> 00:25:24,000

to where the cave is?

540

00:25:24,000 --> 00:25:25,000

Yeah, sure.

541

00:25:25,000 --> 00:25:26,000

Yeah, we could do that.

542

00:25:26,000 --> 00:25:27,000

You want to jump in with us?

543

00:25:27,000 --> 00:25:29,000

No, I think we must go with this.

544

00:25:29,000 --> 00:25:31,000

Wait a minute, you're telling me this drives?

545

00:25:31,000 --> 00:25:33,000

Yeah, well, it's a Land Rover.

546

00:25:33,000 --> 00:25:36,000

Look, just because it's a Land Rover doesn't mean it drives.

547

00:25:36,000 --> 00:25:38,000

And what's going on with the tires?

548

00:25:38,000 --> 00:25:40,000

Well, it's because of the thorns.

549

00:25:40,000 --> 00:25:44,000

We have the sickle bush, and we've put in another layer of tires

550

00:25:44,000 --> 00:25:47,000

so that the thorns don't get through.

551

00:25:47,000 --> 00:25:49,000

You've put a tire on top of the tire?

552

00:25:49,000 --> 00:25:50,000

Yeah.

553

00:25:50,000 --> 00:25:52,000

Okay, yes, we're definitely taking your car then.

554

00:25:52,000 --> 00:25:53,000

Okay.

555

00:25:53,000 --> 00:25:55,000

Now that I see this, I realize we should not be driving.

556

00:26:01,000 --> 00:26:06,000

She rides beautifully.

557

00:26:06,000 --> 00:26:07,000

Luxury.

558

00:26:07,000 --> 00:26:10,000

It's only about three miles to the cave,

559

00:26:10,000 --> 00:26:14,000

but three miles on this fury road feels like an eternity.

560

00:26:14,000 --> 00:26:15,000

There's no right side of the road here,

561

00:26:15,000 --> 00:26:17,000

because, well, it all feels wrong.

562

00:26:17,000 --> 00:26:22,000

Now wake up, you're gonna fall away.

563

00:26:22,000 --> 00:26:24,000

You'll be covered in the dark.

564

00:26:24,000 --> 00:26:26,000

You're gonna fall away.

565

00:26:26,000 --> 00:26:28,000

You're gonna fall away.

566

00:26:28,000 --> 00:26:31,000

You'll be covered in the dark.

567

00:26:31,000 --> 00:26:33,000

You're gonna fall away.

568

00:26:33,000 --> 00:26:36,000

You'll be covered in the dark.

569

00:26:36,000 --> 00:26:37,000

All right.

570

00:26:37,000 --> 00:26:39,000

End of the road, guys.

571

00:26:44,000 --> 00:26:45,000

Okay, thanks.

572

00:26:45,000 --> 00:26:46,000

Here we go.

573

00:26:46,000 --> 00:26:47,000

All right.

574

00:26:47,000 --> 00:26:49,000

With my spine now permanently realigned,

575

00:26:49,000 --> 00:26:51,000

Fio and I follow the landowners to the area

576

00:26:51,000 --> 00:26:54,000

where they found the German artifacts and a cave.

577

00:26:55,000 --> 00:26:59,000

So the environment here is incredibly challenging.

578

00:26:59,000 --> 00:27:02,000

Pretty much everything around here is covered in thorns

579

00:27:02,000 --> 00:27:05,000

and nettles and things that want to cut you.

580

00:27:05,000 --> 00:27:08,000

There's about 30 snakes that could kill you.

581

00:27:08,000 --> 00:27:11,000

Also, it's about 110 degrees out.

582

00:27:14,000 --> 00:27:17,000

We end our hike at the edge of a crack in the earth

583

00:27:17,000 --> 00:27:19,000

that could swallow us whole.

584

00:27:19,000 --> 00:27:21,000

Oh, my word.

585

00:27:21,000 --> 00:27:23,000

Oh, my word.

586

00:27:23,000 --> 00:27:25,000

That is a cave.

587

00:27:33,000 --> 00:27:36,000

At the foot of a Namibian mountain range,

588

00:27:36,000 --> 00:27:39,000

I'm hunting for a World War I treasure chest

589

00:27:39,000 --> 00:27:41,000

that new evidence suggests might be buried

590

00:27:41,000 --> 00:27:43,000

in this underground cavern.

591

00:27:43,000 --> 00:27:45,000

Oh, my word.

592

00:27:46,000 --> 00:27:48,000

When you said cave,

593

00:27:48,000 --> 00:27:51,000

I was picturing something you could maybe walk straight into.

594

00:27:51,000 --> 00:27:52,000

Yeah, well.

595

00:27:52,000 --> 00:27:54,000

Not the chasm of death here.

596

00:27:54,000 --> 00:27:57,000

Well, that's where the treasure would be safe.

597

00:27:57,000 --> 00:27:58,000

I suppose that's true.

598

00:27:58,000 --> 00:28:00,000

Okay, the question is how do we get into it?

599

00:28:00,000 --> 00:28:02,000

We use the ladder.

600

00:28:02,000 --> 00:28:03,000

Ladder?

601

00:28:03,000 --> 00:28:04,000

Ladder.

602

00:28:04,000 --> 00:28:06,000

Holy.

603

00:28:09,000 --> 00:28:12,000

The ladder, which is a generous term for some rusted chains

604

00:28:12,000 --> 00:28:14,000

these guys bolted to a cliff,

605

00:28:14,000 --> 00:28:16,000

straight down about 50 feet.

606

00:28:20,000 --> 00:28:22,000

Steady, slow.

607

00:28:22,000 --> 00:28:24,000

No rush.

608

00:28:26,000 --> 00:28:28,000

Looking good, Josh. Keep going.

609

00:28:28,000 --> 00:28:30,000

Yeah, it's looking good.

610

00:28:30,000 --> 00:28:32,000

It's looking great.

611

00:28:32,000 --> 00:28:34,000

This is crazy.

612

00:28:38,000 --> 00:28:41,000

As I nervously descend the rickety chains,

613

00:28:41,000 --> 00:28:44,000

I look up to see Theo, who's considerably older than me,

614

00:28:44,000 --> 00:28:47,000

yet moving twice as fast while wearing sandals.

615

00:28:47,000 --> 00:28:50,000

Okay, nice work, nice work.

616

00:28:50,000 --> 00:28:52,000

Oh, come on. Is another ladder?

617

00:28:52,000 --> 00:28:53,000

Sure.

618

00:28:53,000 --> 00:28:55,000

You guys are sinister.

619

00:28:57,000 --> 00:28:58,000

Okay.

620

00:28:58,000 --> 00:28:59,000

Okay.

621

00:28:59,000 --> 00:29:00,000

Here we go.

622

00:29:00,000 --> 00:29:01,000

Into the darkness.

623

00:29:01,000 --> 00:29:02,000

Yep.

624

00:29:07,000 --> 00:29:09,000

Wow, look at these formations.

625

00:29:09,000 --> 00:29:11,000

Oh, this is beautiful.

626

00:29:11,000 --> 00:29:13,000

Incredible.

627

00:29:13,000 --> 00:29:16,000

So the items that you guys found around here are iron,

628

00:29:16,000 --> 00:29:18,000

which is something that this would easily pick up.

629

00:29:18,000 --> 00:29:21,000

And then, of course, the treasure,

630

00:29:21,000 --> 00:29:23,000

that was also in a very heavy metal box.

631

00:29:23,000 --> 00:29:24,000

Right, exactly.

632

00:29:24,000 --> 00:29:27,000

So if that's down here, this thing's going to make easy work of finding it.

633

00:29:27,000 --> 00:29:30,000

So let's start by just getting into every chamber that we can.

634

00:29:30,000 --> 00:29:32,000

We'll try to scan this over every inch of floor that we can find.

635

00:29:32,000 --> 00:29:34,000

Okay, we're going to have a look there.

636

00:29:34,000 --> 00:29:36,000

I'll start down here.

637

00:29:40,000 --> 00:29:43,000

So here we can have a look.

638

00:29:47,000 --> 00:29:51,000

I run the detector over every square inch of soft sand I can find.

639

00:29:54,000 --> 00:29:56,000

That's a hit. That's a big hit.

640

00:29:56,000 --> 00:29:57,000

Hey, guys.

641

00:29:57,000 --> 00:29:58,000

Yeah?

642

00:29:58,000 --> 00:30:00,000

Guys, I got something over here.

643

00:30:02,000 --> 00:30:04,000

Got a hit back here for sure.

644

00:30:05,000 --> 00:30:08,000

It's a really clear signal, so let me pass this back to you.

645

00:30:08,000 --> 00:30:09,000

All right.

646

00:30:09,000 --> 00:30:11,000

And let me see if I can pinpoint it.

647

00:30:14,000 --> 00:30:16,000

It's metal.

648

00:30:16,000 --> 00:30:17,000

It's made of metal for sure.

649

00:30:17,000 --> 00:30:18,000

I'm under it now.

650

00:30:18,000 --> 00:30:20,000

It's flat, whatever it is.

651

00:30:21,000 --> 00:30:22,000

Okay.

652

00:30:22,000 --> 00:30:24,000

There we are. It's coming out.

653

00:30:25,000 --> 00:30:27,000

And there we are.

654

00:30:27,000 --> 00:30:29,000

It looks like a spade head.

655

00:30:30,000 --> 00:30:32,000

That is exactly what it is.

656

00:30:32,000 --> 00:30:35,000

Look at that. It's heavy as hell.

657

00:30:35,000 --> 00:30:36,000

It's iron.

658

00:30:36,000 --> 00:30:37,000

Pure iron. Look at that.

659

00:30:38,000 --> 00:30:39,000

That is definitely old.

660

00:30:39,000 --> 00:30:41,000

I would say that probably is.

661

00:30:41,000 --> 00:30:42,000

Probably colonial.

662

00:30:42,000 --> 00:30:44,000

I mean, nobody uses tools like this anymore.

663

00:30:44,000 --> 00:30:47,000

This spade head is at least 100 years old,

664

00:30:47,000 --> 00:30:49,000

which would place it in the early 1900s,

665

00:30:49,000 --> 00:30:53,000

smack dab in the middle of Namibia's German colonial era.

666

00:30:53,000 --> 00:30:56,000

If you can pass me the metal detector, I'm going to get back here

667

00:30:56,000 --> 00:30:58,000

and see if we can get anything else.

668

00:30:58,000 --> 00:31:02,000

I mean, this is a sign that not only were people down here,

669

00:31:02,000 --> 00:31:04,000

but they were digging for some reason.

670

00:31:08,000 --> 00:31:11,000

Okay. Let's see what's down here.

671

00:31:19,000 --> 00:31:20,000

Nothing yet.

672

00:31:20,000 --> 00:31:21,000

Okay.

673

00:31:21,000 --> 00:31:23,000

I'm not getting anything down here. I'm going to back out.

674

00:31:26,000 --> 00:31:27,000

It's coming out.

675

00:31:27,000 --> 00:31:28,000

Wait.

676

00:31:34,000 --> 00:31:36,000

I think there might be something down here.

677

00:31:36,000 --> 00:31:38,000

I'll take that spade back again.

678

00:31:38,000 --> 00:31:41,000

I think I might have left too soon here.

679

00:31:48,000 --> 00:31:49,000

More metal.

680

00:31:49,000 --> 00:31:51,000

More metal.

681

00:31:52,000 --> 00:31:54,000

It's a curved piece of iron, but it's broken.

682

00:31:54,000 --> 00:31:55,000

It's a section of something.

683

00:31:55,000 --> 00:31:57,000

I couldn't tell you what.

684

00:31:57,000 --> 00:31:58,000

Here, I'm going to pass it out to you guys.

685

00:31:58,000 --> 00:32:00,000

Okay. Pass it out. Let's have a look.

686

00:32:00,000 --> 00:32:05,000

Well, it's definitely very old and potentially colonial.

687

00:32:05,000 --> 00:32:07,000

Don't worry. I'm happy to stay down here now.

688

00:32:07,000 --> 00:32:10,000

I'm going to go over this whole chamber in here with a fine tooth comb

689

00:32:10,000 --> 00:32:12,000

and see if we can find anything else.

690

00:32:14,000 --> 00:32:17,000

We continue to search every nook and cranny of these chambers

691

00:32:17,000 --> 00:32:19,000

for the rest of the day.

692

00:32:19,000 --> 00:32:23,000

The colonial-era artifacts we've recovered here are promising,

693

00:32:23,000 --> 00:32:26,000

and they'll keep Kyle and Andre on the hunt for more.

694

00:32:28,000 --> 00:32:32,000

Shortly after sunrise, with the required time between dives having passed,

695

00:32:32,000 --> 00:32:36,000

Theo and I make our way back to Lake Ochikoto to renew our search.

696

00:32:36,000 --> 00:32:39,000

We have several sonar targets left to investigate,

697

00:32:39,000 --> 00:32:43,000

and Theo knows just the person to help narrow them down.

698

00:32:44,000 --> 00:32:47,000

Josh, I would like us to make one stop.

699

00:32:48,000 --> 00:32:50,000

Before reaching the lake,

700

00:32:50,000 --> 00:32:54,000

Theo is eager to visit a woman with an incredible tale to tell,

701

00:32:54,000 --> 00:32:56,000

one that greatly impacts the investigation.

702

00:32:56,000 --> 00:32:59,000

Ilsa Schatz is a lifelong area resident,

703

00:32:59,000 --> 00:33:03,000

who is so beloved by her community, they named a street after her.

704

00:33:05,000 --> 00:33:09,000

First of all, thank you for taking time to talk with us. I appreciate it.

705

00:33:09,000 --> 00:33:11,000

Don't mention it.

706

00:33:11,000 --> 00:33:14,000

We're very interested in the story of this lake,

707

00:33:14,000 --> 00:33:17,000

and I understand that you have a real connection to the story.

708

00:33:17,000 --> 00:33:19,000

Yeah, I do.

709

00:33:19,000 --> 00:33:22,000

When I was younger working at the museum,

710

00:33:22,000 --> 00:33:25,000

an old man approached me and said,

711

00:33:25,000 --> 00:33:27,000

I have a secret.

712

00:33:27,000 --> 00:33:31,000

He told me he was a German soldier here in 1915.

713

00:33:31,000 --> 00:33:34,000

And so what did he tell you? What did he reveal to you?

714

00:33:34,000 --> 00:33:37,000

When the Germans were retreating,

715

00:33:37,000 --> 00:33:42,000

they dumped their weapons and a heavy safe into Lake Ochikoto.

716

00:33:42,000 --> 00:33:44,000

He took me out to the lake,

717

00:33:44,000 --> 00:33:48,000

and showed me the exact spot where they threw in the box.

718

00:33:55,000 --> 00:33:58,000

I'm on the hunt for a legendary German treasure,

719

00:33:58,000 --> 00:34:02,000

cast into Namibia's Lake Ochikoto at the end of World War I.

720

00:34:02,000 --> 00:34:05,000

And we've just heard an incredible account

721

00:34:05,000 --> 00:34:08,000

from someone who spoke with a soldier who was there.

722

00:34:08,000 --> 00:34:11,000

And so what did he tell you? What did he reveal to you?

723

00:34:11,000 --> 00:34:14,000

He took me out to the lake,

724

00:34:14,000 --> 00:34:18,000

and showed me the exact spot where they threw in the box.

725

00:34:18,000 --> 00:34:21,000

He told me he was a German soldier,

726

00:34:21,000 --> 00:34:25,000

and showed me the exact spot where they threw in the box.

727

00:34:25,000 --> 00:34:27,000

Did he know what was inside the box?

728

00:34:27,000 --> 00:34:30,000

His thoughts were disclosed.

729

00:34:30,000 --> 00:34:32,000

He thought it was gold?

730

00:34:32,000 --> 00:34:34,000

Because it was so heavy.

731

00:34:34,000 --> 00:34:36,000

So Ilsa, we have a survey map of the lake.

732

00:34:36,000 --> 00:34:41,000

Can you indicate on here where he said that he threw this box in?

733

00:34:43,000 --> 00:34:48,000

Here, in the corner.

734

00:34:48,000 --> 00:34:51,000

In terms of this northwest corner,

735

00:34:51,000 --> 00:34:54,000

has this been thoroughly searched over here?

736

00:34:54,000 --> 00:34:56,000

The northwestern corner,

737

00:34:56,000 --> 00:35:00,000

it hasn't been searched as intensively as the rest of the lake.

738

00:35:03,000 --> 00:35:07,000

Theo and I jump in our 4x4 and return to the dusty road.

739

00:35:07,000 --> 00:35:10,000

After hearing Ilsa's incredible eyewitness account,

740

00:35:10,000 --> 00:35:13,000

I can't wait to get back to the lake.

741

00:35:13,000 --> 00:35:16,000

One of the deep targets we plan to investigate today

742

00:35:16,000 --> 00:35:20,000

happens to be right under the spot that Ilsa pointed out on the map.

743

00:35:20,000 --> 00:35:23,000

However, investigating is easier said than done,

744

00:35:23,000 --> 00:35:26,000

because the lake is 300 feet deep,

745

00:35:26,000 --> 00:35:28,000

which makes normal scuba diving impossible.

746

00:35:28,000 --> 00:35:31,000

This is a very unique experience for me.

747

00:35:31,000 --> 00:35:34,000

I'm always trying to kind of put myself in the middle of the action,

748

00:35:34,000 --> 00:35:38,000

but this kind of diving is just so beyond anything that I can do.

749

00:35:38,000 --> 00:35:41,000

These guys are going down to more than 300 feet.

750

00:35:41,000 --> 00:35:44,000

This is extremely technical, mathematical diving.

751

00:35:44,000 --> 00:35:48,000

So for today, my mission is to remain topside as a safety for these guys,

752

00:35:48,000 --> 00:35:50,000

and we'll stay in touch throughout their trip,

753

00:35:50,000 --> 00:35:53,000

and hopefully they get something good down there.

754

00:35:54,000 --> 00:35:56,000

Okay, a little thruster.

755

00:35:56,000 --> 00:35:58,000

Okay, thrusters look good.

756

00:35:58,000 --> 00:36:01,000

And lights. Check the lights.

757

00:36:01,000 --> 00:36:04,000

I'll work with Dr. Bates and track the divers

758

00:36:04,000 --> 00:36:07,000

using a deep water remote operated vehicle, or ROV.

759

00:36:07,000 --> 00:36:09,000

ROV in the water.

760

00:36:09,000 --> 00:36:10,000

ROV's away.

761

00:36:10,000 --> 00:36:13,000

As the ROV descends into the lake's depths,

762

00:36:13,000 --> 00:36:16,000

the divers make their final preparations to do the same.

763

00:36:22,000 --> 00:36:26,000

I'm going to hook the strobe at 30 meters so we can find our way back.

764

00:36:26,000 --> 00:36:29,000

Okay, we're seeing your strobe at the bottom of the line.

765

00:36:33,000 --> 00:36:37,000

In order to reach the bottom, Chris and his team are breathing a mixed gas

766

00:36:37,000 --> 00:36:40,000

called nitrox, which is carefully monitored by computers,

767

00:36:40,000 --> 00:36:44,000

as well as rebreathers, which recycle exhaled air.

768

00:36:45,000 --> 00:36:49,000

Even with the rebreathers, even with the mixed gas,

769

00:36:49,000 --> 00:36:53,000

their bottom time down in this lake is still incredibly limited.

770

00:36:53,000 --> 00:36:56,000

So for safety reasons, they're probably still only going to spend

771

00:36:56,000 --> 00:36:58,000

about 10 minutes or so down there.

772

00:36:58,000 --> 00:37:01,000

So they have to find these targets quickly and figure out what they are

773

00:37:01,000 --> 00:37:04,000

because they just don't have the luxury of time.

774

00:37:06,000 --> 00:37:09,000

Dropping. 50 meters.

775

00:37:11,000 --> 00:37:13,000

Any sign at the bottom?

776

00:37:15,000 --> 00:37:17,000

Not yet. Not yet.

777

00:37:18,000 --> 00:37:19,000

70 meters.

778

00:37:24,000 --> 00:37:25,000

100 meters.

779

00:37:26,000 --> 00:37:28,000

Can you see the bottom?

780

00:37:29,000 --> 00:37:30,000

Yes.

781

00:37:30,000 --> 00:37:31,000

Head and go.

782

00:37:35,000 --> 00:37:37,000

It's a little hard for us to keep up with you,

783

00:37:37,000 --> 00:37:40,000

so just keep me posted. Let me know if you guys see anything.

784

00:37:42,000 --> 00:37:43,000

Copy.

785

00:37:49,000 --> 00:37:52,000

This is a view that almost nobody on Earth has seen,

786

00:37:52,000 --> 00:37:57,000

a silent and pitch black landscape more than 300 feet below the surface.

787

00:38:03,000 --> 00:38:05,000

We've got about two minutes in.

788

00:38:07,000 --> 00:38:09,000

We've got about two minutes in.

789

00:38:13,000 --> 00:38:15,000

Josh, I got something here.

790

00:38:16,000 --> 00:38:18,000

Bones. We got bones here.

791

00:38:18,000 --> 00:38:20,000

Did you say bones?

792

00:38:20,000 --> 00:38:22,000

There's bones everywhere.

793

00:38:28,000 --> 00:38:31,000

300 feet below the surface of Namibia's Lake Ochikoto,

794

00:38:31,000 --> 00:38:36,000

deep diver Christine Kamp and his team have just made a gruesome discovery.

795

00:38:36,000 --> 00:38:38,000

Josh, I got something here.

796

00:38:39,000 --> 00:38:41,000

Bones. We got bones here.

797

00:38:41,000 --> 00:38:43,000

Did you say bones?

798

00:38:43,000 --> 00:38:45,000

There's bones everywhere.

799

00:38:45,000 --> 00:38:47,000

Can you tell what it is?

800

00:38:48,000 --> 00:38:51,000

Looks like a large animal. Maybe something went back to them.

801

00:38:52,000 --> 00:38:56,000

How and when this animal came to rest at the bottom of the lake is a mystery,

802

00:38:56,000 --> 00:38:58,000

but it's not the one we're here to solve.

803

00:38:59,000 --> 00:39:02,000

With time running short, the team moves toward the sonar hit.

804

00:39:06,000 --> 00:39:08,000

I think we found the target.

805

00:39:09,000 --> 00:39:11,000

Chris, what are you seeing?

806

00:39:12,000 --> 00:39:14,000

Beautiful old wood spot.

807

00:39:15,000 --> 00:39:17,000

You're seeing a boat?

808

00:39:17,000 --> 00:39:19,000

That's awesome. What's it look like?

809

00:39:19,000 --> 00:39:25,000

Boat is buried in salt, up to the gun holes, but inside, most of the eggs are here.

810

00:39:25,000 --> 00:39:27,000

Wow, amazing.

811

00:39:27,000 --> 00:39:30,000

This is a piece of hidden history.

812

00:39:30,000 --> 00:39:37,000

A boat, likely from the German colonial period, which is frozen in time in the darkness of the lake

813

00:39:37,000 --> 00:39:41,000

and pinpointed from 300 feet above by our sonar scans.

814

00:39:41,000 --> 00:39:44,000

Chris, anything around it at all that you can see?

815

00:39:44,000 --> 00:39:47,000

No sign of a heavy sand down there, no sign of a treasure.

816

00:39:48,000 --> 00:39:50,000

Sadly, no.

817

00:39:50,000 --> 00:39:52,000

Copy that.

818

00:39:52,000 --> 00:39:55,000

The team moves quickly, examining the other targets around the boat.

819

00:39:55,000 --> 00:40:01,000

They see bottles and other debris that sank down from the surface, but their bottom time is up,

820

00:40:01,000 --> 00:40:04,000

and so the search for the gold comes to an end.

821

00:40:05,000 --> 00:40:07,000

Let's head to the surface.

822

00:40:08,000 --> 00:40:14,000

They ascend slowly, stopping at intervals to carefully bleed off nitrogen along the way.

823

00:40:14,000 --> 00:40:15,000

Here we go.

824

00:40:15,000 --> 00:40:16,000

There we go.

825

00:40:17,000 --> 00:40:19,000

The tiger's on surface.

826

00:40:19,000 --> 00:40:21,000

Welcome back. How you doing?

827

00:40:21,000 --> 00:40:22,000

I'm good.

828

00:40:22,000 --> 00:40:24,000

Well, that was pretty cool.

829

00:40:24,000 --> 00:40:26,000

Yeah, we found the little boat.

830

00:40:26,000 --> 00:40:28,000

How long do you reckon that boat's been down there for?

831

00:40:28,000 --> 00:40:32,000

It comes from the German area, so the boat is a hundred years old boat.

832

00:40:32,000 --> 00:40:37,000

The boat inside is that deep, but outside is only that much.

833

00:40:37,000 --> 00:40:39,000

The rest is all silted?

834

00:40:39,000 --> 00:40:40,000

The rest is all silted.

835

00:40:40,000 --> 00:40:41,000

Wow.

836

00:40:41,000 --> 00:40:43,000

So it just proves how things get silted up.

837

00:40:43,000 --> 00:40:47,000

Do you think it's possible that this safe is down there and it never gets found?

838

00:40:47,000 --> 00:40:49,000

Someone will find it some days.

839

00:40:49,000 --> 00:40:50,000

Good night today.

840

00:40:50,000 --> 00:40:51,000

Good night today.

841

00:40:53,000 --> 00:40:57,000

Our African adventure has been a thrilling and dangerous quest.

842

00:40:57,000 --> 00:41:03,000

Cutting-edge sonar is giving us the first-ever look at the true size and shape of this otherworldly lake.

843

00:41:03,000 --> 00:41:08,000

Our dives illuminated World War I cannons, ammunition containers,

844

00:41:08,000 --> 00:41:10,000

and a perfectly preserved historic boat.

845

00:41:10,000 --> 00:41:17,000

And on land, colonial-era artifacts could mean the golden treasure is tucked away deep in a rock.

846

00:41:17,000 --> 00:41:22,000

For now, the puzzle of the treasure lives on, as does the will to solve it.

847

00:41:22,000 --> 00:41:28,000

The men risking their lives to explore Oicoto are as rugged and persistent as the wilderness they live in.

848

00:41:28,000 --> 00:41:33,000

And perhaps with time and technology, they may just crack the case.

849

00:41:33,000 --> 00:41:39,000

But a creeping feeling came over me in the dark waters of the so-called bottomless lake.

850

00:41:39,000 --> 00:41:44,000

It felt to me like a place man isn't meant to be.

851

00:41:44,000 --> 00:41:49,000

Even if the treasure is down there, something tells me the lake wants to keep it for itself.

